

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Noriyoshi NISHIYAMA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2834.

Serial No.: 10/090,476

Examiner: L. Pham

Filed: March 4, 2002

Attorney Docket No.: MATS:037

For: MOTOR WITH STATOR FORMED BY ASSEMBLING DIVIDED STATOR-MEMBERS INTO AN ANNULAR SHAPE, AND COMPRESSOR INCORPORATING THE SAME MOTOR

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Sir:

Enclosed herewith are:

Request for Reconsideration: 2 Pages

Total Including this Cover Sheet: 3 Pages

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL

Sir:

Applicants request the examiner to reconsider the Final rejection dated April 9, 2003, where the examiner rejected all of the claims. Specifically, the examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7-11, and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Takeuchi (USP 5,583,387) in view of Hirano (USP 5,729,072), and rejected claims 5, 6, 12, and 13 under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Takeuchi in view of Hirano and Torossian (USP 4,103,195).

Applicants submit that 1) the combination would not have taught bonding the inner or outer end face along a laminating direction of the core sheets with an adhesive to join the core sheets of each divided stator member, and 2) there would not have been any motivation to bond the inner or outer end face with an adhesive for that purpose.

The examiner correctly states that Takeuchi teaches laser welding the inner and outer end faces 12 (Fig. 1) of the core sheets of each divided stator member instead of adhesive bonding the

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core sheets. In this regard, the examiner relied upon Hirano for the proposition that it would have been obvious for Takeuchi to bond the core sheets using an adhesive. Applicants disagree.

First, Hirano teaches bonding (Fig. 2) the divided stator members 21 to each other using an adhesive. Specifically, Hirano teaches joining the stator members 21 to each other at the outer divided surfaces 24 between adjacent stator members 21 to eliminate the need to join the inner divided surfaces 3 (Fig. 4). In contrast to the examiner's assessment, the combination would have taught, at best, adhesive bonding Takeuchi's stator members together at their dividing faces 13, not the core plates of each stator member called for in the claims.

Second, if the examiner intended to merely rely upon Hirano for the proposition that welding and adhesive bonding are fungible, regardless where it is applied, applicants submit that the examiner has not provided any motivation as to why Takeuchi would use adhesive bonding specifically when Takeuchi specifically calls for using laser welding to join the core plates. The examiner nor the applied references provide any motivation for bonding with an adhesive when laser welding has been particularly selected and desired in Takeuchi.

In contrast, the claimed invention is directed to solving a specific problem with conventional stator members, namely, welding on borders between laminated cores sheets which form conventional divided stator members (See Fig. 7A) damages the electrical insulation of the laminated sheets. The damaged insulation increases eddy currents which results in a decrease in motor efficiency. None of the cited references cited by the examiner recognizes the problem addressed and solved by the claimed invention. Applicants submit that the only motivation for combining the references as proposed by the examiner is applicants' own teaching of the problem and solution provided by the claimed invention, which cannot form the basis for finding the claims *prima facie* obvious as required under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Torossian would not have alleviated the above shortcomings of Hirano and Takeuchi. Accordingly, applicants submit that claims 1-18 patentably distinguish over the applied references and thus urge the examiner to reconsider and withdrawal the rejection of the claims and pass the application to issuance.

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Applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed by applicants on June 2, 2003. It is respectfully requested that the examiner acknowledge receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement and return an initialed copy of the PTO Form 1449 in the next official response.

Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution. No fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,



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